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CENTRAL FAX CENTERApplication No. 09/781,986
First Preliminary Amendment

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Docket No.: 59915(51719)

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 41 and 42 without prejudice. Please amend claims 1, 23 and 37 and add new claims 45 – 49 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A collapsible container comprises:

a) first and second sidewalls pivotally connected to a base, and first and second end walls pivotally connected to said base, said first sidewall includes at least one latching member that cooperates with a latching member of said first end wall to secure said first sidewall and said first end wall together when said first sidewall and said first end wall are in upright positions;

b) a wall locking system that includes a plurality of first wall locking members on said first sidewall and at least one second wall locking member on said first end wall, said second wall locking member cooperates with said first wall locking members to prevent the first sidewall from moving relative to said first end wall in at least one direction when the first sidewall and first end wall are in upright positions; and

c) a wall alignment system that includes a first member extending from a first of said sidewalls and end walls ~~when said sidewalls and end walls are in a substantially upright position~~ and a second member extending ~~in a substantially first direction~~ from a second of said sidewalls and end walls, wherein said ~~first~~ ^{second} member of said wall alignment system ~~is extends along an inwardly facing surface of said first of said sidewalls and ends walls~~ in a second direction substantially orthogonal to the first direction, such that said first member cooperates with said second member ~~as the second of said sidewalls and end walls pivots to an upright position~~ to align adjacent sidewalls and end walls before said sidewalls and end walls achieve a completely upright position aligning the first wall locking members with the second wall locking members as the respective sidewalls and end walls are pivoted to an upright position.

2. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 1 wherein said first member of said alignment system includes a spur that extends in a direction away from an outer side edge of said one of said sidewalls, and said second member of said alignment system ~~includes a pair of receiving members that extend in a direction away from a face of said one of said end walls, said receiving members form an opening for~~

Potential addition to claim 1
from new claim

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slidably receiving said first member when said first sidewall and said first end wall are moved to the upright position.

3. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 2 wherein said receiving members extend along a portion of said one of said end walls and form a spur receiving groove having a tapered receiving end.

4. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 2 wherein said one of said sidewalls is said first sidewall, and wherein said spur is positioned along the height of the said first sidewall between adjacent first wall locking members.

5. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 1 wherein said sidewalls and end walls each include a plurality of latching members.

6. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 5 wherein said first sidewall latching member includes a plate extending along the length of said first sidewall in the direction of said first end wall.

7. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 5 wherein said first end wall latching member includes a biased panel that deflects away from an interior of the container under pressure.

8. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 7 wherein said biased panel is connected to said first end wall at a flexible hinge.

9. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 7 wherein said inner surface of said panel is contoured so that it includes a first region and a second region that extend different depths into the interior of the container.

10. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 7 further including a deformation prevention member that extends between an outer rear surface of said biased panel and an outer rear surface of said first end wall for limiting the distance that the biased panel can deflect.